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GAME 7, DAY 2.
OF THE 70TH MEIJIN CHAMPION-SHIP. WE ARE NEARING THE END HERE ON VTR.
AT MOVE 150, DOBASHI KENJI HAS RESIGNED.
AT THE END OF A FIERCE FULL SET OF 7-GAMES,
SOUYA MEIJIN HAS DEFENDED HIS TITLE AN ASTONISH-ING 11TH TIME.
I'VE LOST.
パシャ
パシャ
SEX: PASHA PASHA
ARE YOU OKAY, MOM.
TURN IT OFF... DAD.
SEX: PIH
ピッ
I KNOW WE'VE SEEN KENJI LOSE BEFORE
.....
MORE TIMES THEN WE CAN COUNT, BUT...

HE GOT THE RIGHT TO BE THE CHALLENGER IN THE MEIJIN CHAMPION-SHIP AGAIN AFTER SO LONG
FOR A YEAR, HE PUT EVERYTHING ELSE ASIDE
AND PUSHED HIMSELF SO HARD... IT WAS SCARY JUST WATCHING HIM DO IT.
AND DEVOTED HIMSELF TO STUDYING EVERY SINGLE DAY.
FOR SOME REASON
THIS TIME IS ESPECIALLY HARD.
将棋会
—IF HE STILL COULDN'T WIN THEN,
THEN WHAT IS THERE LEFT TO SHAVE OFF?
THERE ARE ONLY 24 HOURS IN A DAY, AREN'T THERE?
AND WHENEVER HE WAS AWAKE, HE WOULD ALWAYS HAVE RESEARCH MATERIALS IN HIS HAND EVEN IF HE WERE BATHING OR SLEEPING.
HE WOULDN'T WATCH TV OR GO OUTSIDE,
AT THIS RATE...
HOW IS HE GOING TO PUSH HIMSELF ANY HARDER?
—DAD,
WHAT IS THAT BOY GOING TO DO FROM HERE?

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and go to all sorts of places all over Japan.
I would go on the train with Kenji
When he was a child,
HE'S GOING TO SHAVE HIMSELF AWAY
AND DISAPPEAR.
HSJ
王
子供将
子供将棋まつり

On our way home
we would walk together under the starry sky.
and when he lost, he'd be devastated.
When he would win, he'd be delighted

I was on the journey with him.
It felt like
so he could continue playing the shogi he loved.
that I decided I would do whatever I had to
I was so happy to see Kenji always moving forward

HEY... DAD.
so I never really thought about
Back then, I felt like I was in a dream

WHEN OUR BOY COMES HOME TOMORROW ...
this path would go...
how long

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OH, WELCOME HOME.
KENJI ...
WHAT'S WITH THOSE BAGS?!
THERE SURE ARE A LOT!!
Ara Ara Ara
THERE AREN'T ANY COOL PACKS AND HE BOUGHT THEM ALL THE WAY FROM NAGASAKI?! WON'T THEY MELT?!
I'M HOME.
WHAT SHOULD WE SAY TO HIM...?

SFX: JIWA (CRYING) PON...

SFX: MOSAAA DOSSARI... (HEAVY)

AH, INARI ZUSHI! THANKS SO MUCH FOR THAT!
KENJI.
MOM ... Don't cry.
I BOUGHT THE MENTAIKO AND THE PORK LEG WHEN I TRANSFERRED AT HATAKA.
I BOT THE KARASUMI BECAUSE I REMEMBER YOU SAYING YOU THOUGHT IT WAS DELICIOUS BEFORE...
OH, KARASUMI!!! FROM TAKANODA'S!! OH, DEAR, THESE ARE EXPENSIVE, AREN'T THEY??!
And I got some fried pork leg for dad...
Even castella!!
And mentaiko!
And some keiran soumen !!
T/N: KARASUMI IS SALTED MULLET ROE. KEIRAN SOUMEN IS ANGEL-HAIR NOODLES MADE OF SUGAR AND EGG YOLK. MENTAIKO IS WALLEYE POLLACK ROE. CASTELLA IS A KIND OF SPONGE CAKE.

SFX: DOSSARI (HEAPING)

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SFX: MOCCHI MOCCHI MUCCHI
I WAS REALLY SURPRISED.
YEAH.
もっちゃ
もっちゃ
もっちゃ
EVEN AFTER ALL THAT STUDYING ...
IT WAS LIKE I WAS SAYING 'HOW ABOUT THIS?!!'
もごごご
I DID SO MUCH RESEARCH —
HUH?
A WHOLE BUNCH OF DOORS I'D NEVER SEEN BEFORE SHOWED UP.
BUT EVEN AFTER I WENT AS FAR AS I THOUGHT I COULD GO,

IT WAS PRETTY FUNNY SEEING HIS FACE,
SOUYA-KUN WAS SURPRISED, TOO.
BUT WE WERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MATCH,
SO I THOUGHT I SHOULD HOLD BACK,
BUT WE BOTH ENDED UP LAUGHING.
SO I DECIDED
NEXT TIME I'LL GO TO SOUYA-KUN'S PLACE
AND DO RESEARCH THERE.
HEY, KENJI, ARE YOU GONNA EAT, TALK, OR YAWN?
PICK ONE AND STICK WITH IT!! —— ER, WAIT, SOUYA-KUN'S HOUSE?
haaa...
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So we made a pact to open them together.
To the point where we're not gonna be able to get anywhere working separately.
then shogi still has tons of depth left to it.
doors we've never seen before showing up,
I just feel that if there are still

SFX: MOGU MOGU (CHEWING)

SFX: PATAN POKAAAAN...

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SFX: KIPPARI (FLATLY) ZUBASSU

きっぱり

Straight face

Well,

it's because the god of shogi is a woman. So of course, she picks the 'better man.'

People like Souya, or me, or me.

すばっ

With a straight face?!

Did he just say 'me' twice?

—First, we'll hear from the commentator, Fujimoto Kiryuu.

What do you think was what separated a win from a loss in this 7th game?

*Kiriyama

DAD...

HOW ABOUT WE WATCH THE END OF YESTERDAY'S BROADCAST?

YEAH, OKAY.

but he lacks the 'luck' to be a major player!!

—And I hate to say it,

He's too darn serious !!

Dobashi really lacks even a modicum of charm !!

Ya know, I've been thinkin' about this for a while now and...

SFX: KACCHIIN BATAH

—But, on the other hand,

YOU BEARDED FOUR-EYED JERK!!

DAMMIT, RAIDOU !!

ガーン

This Fujimoto Kiryuu is such a mean person!

HOW COULD HE SAY SOMETHING SO AWFUL?!

HOW AWFUL!

ダダダ

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70th Meijin Championship Game 7
Dobashi 9-dan showed off his truly astounding 'hard work' in every one of these 7 games!!
he made it here without needing that 'luck.'
—A player like that never have anything to do with slumps or being out of form.
If he never had 'luck' from the start, he can't lose it later on.
take a gooood luck at these seven games.
—If you want to know who to watch out for in the current shogi world,
That Dobashi man is quite a shogi player.

SFX GUUL GUUL
GOTTA WATCH OVER HIM FOR A WHILE
AND IT LOOKS LIKE WE STILL
SFX GLH
GOOD HEALTH
YEAH
Upper-Body
STARTS FROM THE LEGS, THEY SAY
.....
DAD,
HOW ABOUT WE GO FOR A WALK?
—— WE'VE GOTTA HOLD OUT OUR GOOD HEALTH ANOTHER 15 YEARS...
HE HAS TO FIND A WIFE BEFORE WE'RE GONE.
YEAH
THAT SEEMS LIKE IT COULD BE EVEN HARDER THAN GAINING THE TITLE OF MEIJIN
OH, DAAAD!

Chapter 94 END

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— FIRST, WE'LL HEAR FROM THE COMMENTATOR, FUJIMOTO KIRYUU
WHAT DO YOU THINK WAS WHAT SEPARATED A WIN FROM A LOSS IN THIS 7TH MATCH?
Kiryuu
I dunno how to say this...
The way he handled it was...
Kind of...
crude...
*The protagonist

SFX: KUPI

THE THING MAKING THAT ROARING SOUND IN THOSE FIRST TWO PANELS WAS MY☆NEW MIXER.

WHEN THE PRESIDENT OF HAKUSENSHA READ THE AFTERWARD OF VOLUME 8, HE TOLD ME 'PLEASE, TAKE BETTER CARE OF YOUR FINGERS!!' (TEARS OF GRATITUDE)!!

SFX: DOKYUAKYAYA GOUN GOUN

HELLO EVERYONE, THIS IS UMINO. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR READING LION VOLUME 9!!

I-FEEL-SO, SO THANKFUL TO ALL THESE PEOPLE THAT CAME OUT ON SUCH HOT SUMMER DAYS.

AGAIN, I STARED AT EVERYONE'S BACK WITH SO MUCH HAPPINESS I FELT LIKE I WAS GOING TO MELT.

IN THE SUMMER OF 2013, I WAS ASKED TO DO AN EXHIBITION IN NAGOYA AND KYOTO.

WHEN I GET OLD AND PASS AWAY, I THINK I'D LIKE TO BE BURIED WITH THEM, BUT THERE'S OVER A HUNDRED BOOKS WORTH AND I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO FIT THEM ALL INTO THE CASKET!! I'M OVERFLOWING WITH HAPPINESS!!

THE THING THAT MADE ME HAPPIEST AT THOSE EXHIBITIONS WERE THE NOTES PEOPLE LEFT.

Packed and Tight.....

UMINO AND HER HAPPY FRIENDS

Bun-chan

Juku

Betty

Wachita-san

Chiyo-chan

Mizuno-kun

Hamutaro

Emily

SFX: DOGYAYA GOOGOOON

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I SUPPORT HIS WAIST LIKE THIS.

BUT

hahh

SFX: SUHHH PA... RI...

THOUGH HE'S BEEN GOING LOWER AND LOWER ON HIS SCRATCHING POST.

IN HUMAN YEARS, I THINK HE'S AROUND 60, BUT HE'S IN THE PEAK OF HIS CUTENESS! ☆

BUN-CHAN IS DOING WELL, TOO. THOUGH HIS LEGS MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN A BIT WEAK...?

SFX: YUSSA YUSSA PARI PARI PARI PARI

LIVING 'HAPPY AND HEALTHY' IS REALLY IMPORTANT, DON'T YOU THINK?

WHEN BUN-CHAN AND I HELP EACH OTHER OUT (?) LIKE THIS, WE CAN LIVE HAPPY, HEALTHY LIVES... I THINK.

No! I'm not budging! I will not look back!!

Um... Bun-chan? Could you get out of the way?

SFX: BAASHI BAASHI

I think... I can make it!!

THERE YA GO!

LIKE THIS!! C'MON, YOU GO WAY HIGHER THAN THAT!! ☆

SFX: BARI BARI BARI BARI BARI BARI BARI KUIIIN YUSSA YUSSA

WITH A SLEEPING HANDSTAND OF GRATITUDE, I CONTINUE TO WORK HARD ON TO VOLUME 10.

IF YOU COULD SOMEHOW CONTINUE TO WATCH OVER ME, IT WOULD MAKE ME SO, SO HAPPY.

FROM UMINO ☆

FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART, I REALLY HAVE TO THANK MY ASSISTANTS, MY FRIENDS, MY EDITOR, MY PRINTER, THE PEOPLE WHO WORK AT THE BOOK SHOPS AND PRINT SHOPS, SENZAKI-SENSEI, THE DESIGNERS, THE CAMERAMEN, EVERYONE WHO HAD A HAND IN THIS MANGA, AND ALL OF YOU READING IT RIGHT NOW...

WITH THE NEXT ONE, '3-GATSU NO LION' WILL FINALLY REACH 10 VOLUMES... I'VE CAUGHT UP TO MY LAST WORK, 'HONEY AND CLOVER.'

*There are too many positions where I can't sleep because of the way my legs are pointed, so I finally decided on this posture...

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